

US Army Corps of Engineers. Philadelphia District

Wanamaker Building 100 Penn Square East Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390 ATTN: CENAP-OP-R

## **Public Notice**

Public Notice No. NAP-2019-00174-86

July 20, 2022

Application No. NAP-2019-00174-86

File No.

NAP-2019-00174-86

In Reply Refer to:

REGULATORY BRANCH

This Public Notice (PN) is related to an earlier Corps of Engineers PN identified as NAP-2019-00174-86, issued by the Philadelphia District on June 17, 2022. The previous notice, and this notice are associated with an application for a Department of the army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

The purpose of this notice is to extend the comment period of Public Notice NAP-2019-00174-86 to allow the public more time to submit comments to the Corps. In response to a request from the public for additional time in which to provide comments on the project, the Corps of Engineers has decided to extend the public notice comment period for an additional 30 days, to terminate on August 17, 2022. The public is invited to submit comments to this office until, and including, that date. Comments should be forwarded to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District at:

<u>PhiladelphiaDistrictRegulatory@usace.army.mil</u>. This action is taken pursuant to federal regulations at 33 CFR 325.2(d)(2).

APPLICANT: Thomas Seaman

Borough of Seaside Park 1701 North Ocean Avenue Seaside Park, NJ 08752

AGENT: Pamela Hilla

Remington & Vernick Engineers

9 Allen Street

Toms River, NJ 08753

WATERWAY: Barnegat Bay

LOCATION: The project is located within Barnegat Bay along North Bay Avenue, Seaside Park, Ocean County, New Jersey. The project extends from the intersection of H Street and North Bayview Avenue to the intersection of Island Avenue and North Bayview Avenue. (39.928800, -74.080034)

ACTIVITY: The project includes the proposed installation of a living shoreline, which will include a vegetated beach dune system along with an oyster reef breakwater extending from

H Street to Island Avenue. Proposed walkovers are to be constructed to maintain public access to the Bayfront. The proposed living shoreline shall help to enhance vegetation/habitat, dissipate wave action and stabilize the shoreline along the Barnegat Bay in the Borough of Seaside Park. Additionally, six (6) existing stormwater outfalls will be replaced and extended, and inline tide valves are to be installed at each stormwater outfall.

Phase I of this project will consist of a 6.0-foot NAVD 1988 elevation dune crest that will be 4 feet above the Bayview Avenue Street elevation and 50 feet in toe-to-toe width starting at Bayview Avenue's western curb line. This dune will blend in with the remnant dunes at both ends of the segment. A sand beach above mean high water will extend into the bay for 30 additional feet to a new mean high-water line followed by a 1:10 slope down to the existing bay floor. Public access at each perpendicular street end will be afforded by pedestrian walkways over the dunes onto the beach. This Bayshore segment is entirely municipally owned and will remain perpetually in public ownership with access always allowed. No fixed structural development will be anticipated on the 3 restored beach or dunes. Traditional dune vegetation will be planted and protected from trespass with appropriate fencing. Offshore in shallow water that dominates this part of Barnegat Bay, a staggered orientation series of eight (8) HESCO steel baskets filled with 4 to 6 inch stone and encapsulated with shell is proposed to be installed along the segment as two back to back rows of baskets 10 feet wide by 30 feet long oriented to generally face the northwest wave approach direction and a second single row of HESCO baskets in parallel formation to the front rows, but set back landward by 50 feet. There will be 100-foot gaps between the sets of baskets to allow some wave passage and fish passage and allow horseshoe crabs and diamondback terrapins, along with recreational small vessels and paddleboards used by local residents and visitors, access to the sand beach.

This hybrid living "breakwater" will be submerged at high tide and be exposed at low tide. Shells will be set on both faces, the ends and the top surfaces of the reef units and eventually weld the entire array into a potential habitat for organisms in each of the basket units. Installation would be from a barge using a small crane to fill and place each basket unit into the formation fronting the Bayshore.

PURPOSE: The applicant's stated purpose of the project is to repair the damaged shoreline along N. Bayview Avenue. The dune system will help mitigate flooding in the area and the HESCO oyster baskets will create a living shoreline while dissipating wave energy that could potentially damage the shoreline. There is no barrier protection to flood occurrence with the roadway curb only 6 to 8 inches above normal high tide and seven blocks of this Phase 1 zone totally exposed to both wind-generated waves and tide levels a foot above the normal high tide.

Please see the June 17, 2022 dated PN for the full information and the plan set. Additional information concerning this permit application, NAP-2019-00174-86, may be obtained by emailing Rachel Ward at <a href="mailto:Rachel.j.ward@usace.army.mil">Rachel.j.ward@usace.army.mil</a>.

For: Todd A. Schaible Chief, Regulatory Branch